WHEREAS, thousands of South Dakota families know, firsthand, the painful and frustrating limitations of physical and mental handicaps; and

WHEREAS, surveys and studies which have been conducted in widely differing fields have shown that handicapped workers are adaptable, productive, careful, regular, reliable and capable; and

WHEREAS, jobs exist in industry, business, agriculture and government that can be performed by the handicapped, often with an increase in safety and productivity; and

WHEREAS, many barriers, both architectural and attitudinal, still exist inhibiting their search for employment and a share in the way of life that some of them, especially the disabled veteran, sacrificed to protect; and

WHEREAS, pockets of prejudice still exist, particularly against certain categories of the more severely handicapped, and we must continue to educate our citizens--employers and workers, healthy and handicapped--about the benefits of developing and using the individual's skills:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD F. KNEIP, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the Week beginning October 7, 1973 as NATIONAL EMPLOY THE HANDICAPPED WEEK and urge all Mayors, other public officials, leaders in business, educational and religious groups, labor, civic, veteran, professional and fraternal organizations, and other groups and individuals, including the handicapped themselves, to take an active part in this observance; and further, urge employers to insure that their employment practices, and places of employment are accessible to handicapped applicants; and further, urge all architects, designers, engineers and other people responsible for building our schools, churches, transportation systems, parks, theaters, restaurants, lodging facilities, public buildings and places of employment to remember the needs of all persons with mobility limitations in the construction of these facilities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this 6th day of September, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Seventy-three.

Richard F. Kneip

RICHARD F. KNEIP, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Lorna B. Herseth

LORNA B. HERSETH, SECRETARY OF STATE

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